The People's Korea

No. 1,382 EVERY SATURDAY APRIL 30, 1988 Per Copy Price: ₩250 (US$1.00)

President Kim Il Sung Receives Soviet Military Delegation

President Kim Il Sung on Apr. 22 received the visiting Soviet military delegation led by General Pyotr Lushev, first vice minister of defence of the Soviet Union.

Present there were O Jin U, minister of People's Armed Forces, and General Kim Gwang Jin of the Korean People's Army. Soviet ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Korea Gennadi Bartoshevich was also on hand.

The DPRK President conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, the official KCNA reported.

Earlier on Apr. 20, Minister of People's Armed Forces O Jin U met and had a friendly conversation with the Soviet military delegation which paid a courtesy call on him.

The delegation arrived in Pyongyang on Apr. 19 by air. It was met at the airport by Choe Gwang, chief of the General Staff of the KPA, General Kim Gwang Jin, Colonel General Cho Myong Rok and other generals and officers of the KPA.

In a banquet arranged by the PAF Ministry on the evening of Apr. 19, Chief of the General Staff of the KPA Choe Gwang supported the INF treaty signed by the Soviet Union and the United States in December last year, "considering it a fruition of the peace efforts of the Soviet Union to defend peace and security in Asia, Europe and the world against nuclear war."

Head of the Soviet military delegation Pyotr Lushev said in his speech that the Soviet-Korean friendship is in the fundamental interests of the two countries and an important factor for peace in the Far East and the Pacific region.

"The Soviet Union invariably supports the Korean people's struggle to ensure a durable peace and security on the Korean Peninsula and turn the peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone," he said.

President Kim Il Sung on Apr. 22 received the visiting Soviet military delegation led by General Pyotr Lushev, first vice minister of defence of the Soviet Union. (KCNA radiophoto)

Chinese Army Del. Visits Pyongyang

President Kim Il Sung on Apr. 16 received the friendship visiting group of the Chinese People's Liberation Army headed by Zhang Zhongxian, political commissar of CPLA Guanzhou military area.

Present there was O Jin U, minister of People's Armed Forces of the DPRK.

Wen Yezhan, Chinese ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the DPRK, and Wang Dahui, military attache of the Chinese embassy in Pyongyang, were also present there.

DPRK Officials Mourn PLO Leader

DPRK officials on Apr. 17 called at the mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Pyongyang and expressed condolences over the death of Mr. Abu Jihad, member of the PLO Executive Committee and deputy commander-in-chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Armed Forces.

Among the mourners were Pak Sung Chul, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers'

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Premier Li Consoles Pakistanis for Depot Explosion

Premier Li Gun Mo of the Administration Council of the DPRK sent a message of sympathy to Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the KCNA said on Apr. 16.

The message expressed deep consolation and sympathy to the prime minister of Pakistan, and through him, to the government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the bereaved families of the deceased and victims of a sudden explosion at an ammunition depot on the suburbs of Islamabad on Apr. 10. More than 800 were reportedly killed or injured by the explosion.

The message expressed the hope that the Pakistani people would recover at an early date from the damages under the deep care of the government of Pakistan.

S. Korean Students Renew Anti-Roh Protest on "Apr. 19 Uprising" Anniv.; 30,000 at 107 Univs. Involved

(See related stories on page 4)

Though Roh Tae Woo took power in south Korea last February succeeding former president Chun Doo Hwan and seems successful in telling people that he is bringing some "democracy" to society, the country's main opposition force so far is not convinced that he is better than "a bald man with a wig".

In commemoration of the largest popular uprising in the country's modern history, more than 20,000 university students in Seoul on Apr. 18 took to the streets and staged anti-U.S., anti-government rallies and demonstrations.

Students from 10 universities in Seoul, shouting slogans such as "Down with dictatorship" and "Yankees, go home", turned a marathon race commemorating the April 19 Popular Uprising into an anti-government march.

The marathon race covered 8 km from Korea University to Suyuri where a memorial tower of the April 19 Popular Uprising stands.

The April 19 uprising, which toppled the then Syngman Rhee regime 28 years

(Continued on page 8, col. 1)

Students run in the street of Seoul on Apr. 18 to mark the anniversary of the 1960 uprising that ousted the Syngman Rhee regime. Some 20,000 students participated in an anti-government marathon from a Seoul university to the monument for the uprising. (Reuter)

S. Korean College Professor Defects to DPRK

Li U Gap, 52, associate professor at the Kunsan Business College in south Korea and vice chairman of the North Cholla Provincial Maritime Children's Federation, went over to the DPRK recently. He arrived in Pyongyang on Apr. 15.

Born in the North Cholla provincial city of Chonju, he had lived long in Kunsan and taught in high schools and colleges.

He told newsmen at the airport that he was glad and happy very much to have gratified his desire to be embraced by the DPRK on the very significant birthday of President Kim Il Sung.

Li U Gap added that he, examining with the conscience of a teacher the anti-communist propaganda of the south Korean authorities, regularly listened to radio broadcasts of the north for 10-odd years, read many publications of the north including "Kim Il Sung Selected Works," which deepened his longing for the north.

"I left south Korea late March, determined to celebrate the birthday of the respected General in the north this year, and I am here now, embraced by the DPRK," he stressed.

S. Korean Artillery Bombards North

The south Korean soldiers on Apr. 21 fired artillery shells at a post of the north Korean side in Kukhwa-ri, Changpung county, Kaeson Municipality, in the western sector of the front, the KCNA reported.

The report said the bombardment at around 19:10 seriously threatened the safety of civil policemen of the DPRK side on routine duty and destroyed facilities of the post.

"It was entirely due to the patience of our side that the incident did not expand into an armed conflict between the two sides," the report said.

Earlier on Apr. 17, the south Korean side deliberately started a fire in the Demilitarized Zone south of Pyonggang in the central sector of the front, taking advantage of a southwest wind, burning over 1,200 hectares of forests in the

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Notice to Readers

The People's Korea won't be published next week. In addition, the No. 1,383 issue will be published as a May 14–May 21 combined edition, which means no paper on May 21.

We apologize to our readers for inconvenience. –Editor

President Kim Il Sung's 76th Birthday Colorfully Celebrated

DPRK President Watches Int'l Performances

President Kim Il Sung watched joint performances by foreign artists participating in the Sixth "April Spring Friendship Art Festival", the KCNA reported on Apr. 18.

The performances were given by a number of art troupes and acrobatic groups from the five continents of the world and Korean artists from Japan who had come to celebrate the auspicious holiday in April.

The performances began with a chorus of the revolutionary paean "Song of General Kim Il Sung" followed by colorful numbers of music, dance, and circus performed by artists from the Soviet Union, China, Mongolia, the GDR, Romania, Bulgaria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Cuba, Koreans from Japan, Pakistan, India, Egypt, Ethiopia, the Congo, Madagascar, the Sudan, Nicaragua, Peru, Jordan, Japan, Tanzania, Malta, Austria, France, Venezuela, Lebanon, Syria, Britain, Mexico, Macao, Thailand, Sweden and Korea.

The performers highly lauded the greatness, wise leadership and noble communistic virtues of President Kim Il Sung who has made an imperishable contribution to the strengthening and development of the Korean revolution by developing the Juche idea and brilliantly applying it.

President Kim Il Sung presented floral baskets to the artists for their successful performances.

He met the vice chairman of the International Dance Council, the executive secretary of the International Music Council, heads and actors and actresses of art troupes from different countries, and posed for photographs with diplomatic envoys from various countries.

The April festival opened in Pyongyang on Apr. 7 and closed on the 18th.

Presidential Educational Aid Fund & Stipends Sent Here

President Kim Il Sung sent educational aid fund and stipends amounting to ¥125,700,000 in Japanese currency in the 108th instalment to the Korean residents in Japan for the democratic national education of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan).

This brought the total educational aid fund and stipends sent by the President to the children of Korean residents in Japan in the past 30 years or more to ¥38,810,452,433 in Japanese currency.

This benevolent solicitude will be conducive to the development of the democratic national education of Chongryun.

Supreme Orders & Gold Medals Received

President Kim Il Sung has received a great many supreme orders and gold medals from foreign countries and international organizations.

These supreme orders and gold medals he has so far received exceed 60.

They include supreme orders and gold medals from nearly 50 countries and international organizations such as "Order of Lenin" of the Soviet Union, "The Order 'Star of the Socialist Republic of Romania' First Class" of Romania, "Order of Karl Marx" of the GDR, "Order of Georgi Dimitrov" of Bulgaria, "Great Star Order" of Yugoslavia, "Order of Jose Marti" of Cuba, "Order of Klement Gottwald" of Czechoslovakia, "Order of Poland's Resurrection First Class" of Poland, "Order of Sukhe-Batar" of Mongolia, "The Order of Augusto Cesar Sandino" of Nicaragua, "Grand National Cross First Class" of Madagascar, "Grand Nile Necklace Order" of Egypt, "Order of the Great September First" of Libya and "Gold Medal" of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

Gifts from More Than 150 Nations & Int'l Orgs.

President Kim Il Sung has so far received more than 43,000 items of valuable gifts from party, state and government heads, leaders of political parties, parliaments and social organisations, prominent public figures and Juche idea study organisations of more than 150 countries of the world and several dozen international organisations.

There are among them limousines from the Soviet party and government heads, the ivory carving "The Old Home in Mangyongdae" from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, a wrist watch bearing a portrait of President Kim Il Sung and his portrait drawn by special technique with letters of an Arabic translation of his work "The Non-Aligned Movement Is a Mighty Anti-Imperialist Revolutionary Force of Our Times."

The gifts also include the book "Biography of Kim Il Sung," the sculpture "Long Live the Undying Juche Idea.", the embroidery "The Era of Chajusong", porcelainwares made more than 3,000 years ago, a perpetual calendar and a cigarette pipe symbolic of longevity, gold, silver and gem ornaments, rare medicines, animals and plants valued as national treasures, etc.

Gifts highly praising the greatness and immortal revolutionary exploits of President Kim Il Sung, gifts reflecting the desire of peoples to fight on staunchly along the road of independence under the banner of Juche and tens of thousands of gifts carrying the ardent wishes of peoples of the five continents for his longevity in good health are all precious articles each of which has made with utmost sincerity.

Congratulatory Messages From For. Party & State Leaders

Foreign party and state leaders congratulated President Kim Il Sung on his 76th birthday.

The President received congratulations, a personal letter and a gift from **General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev**. He also received congratulations and a basket of flowers from the Chinese party and state leaders.

The messages are from **Nicolae Ceausescu**, General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and President of the **Romanian Socialist Republic**;

Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea;

Hafez Al Assad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic;

Ahmed Ali El Migrani, President of the Council of the Head of State of the Republic of the Sudan;

Jerry John Rawlings, Chairman of the Provisional National Defence Council of the Republic of Ghana;

Joao Bernardo Vieira, President of the State Council of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau;

Ibrahim B. Babangida, President and Commander-in-Chief of armed forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Ali Seibou, President of the Supreme Military Council and Head of State of the Republic of Niger;

Habyarimana Juvenal, President of the Republic of Rwanda and President-Founder of the National Revolutionary Movement for Development of Rwanda;

Blaise Compaore, Chairman of the People's Front, Head of State and Head of the government of Burkina Faso;

France Albert Rene, President of the Republic of Seychelles;

Gnassingbe Eyadema, President-Founder of the Togolese People's Rally and President of the Republic of Togo;

Daniel Ortega Saavedra, President of the Republic of Nicaragua;

Erskine Sandiford, prime minister of Barbados;

Paul Suereb, Acting President of the Republic of Malta;

Razar Mojsov, President of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

Joseph Saido Momoh, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone;

Mohamed Abdelaziz, President of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic and Secretary General of the Polisario Front;

Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea;

Yoweri Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda;

Didier Ratsiraka, President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar;

Moussa Traore, General Secretary of the Malian People's Democratic Union and President of the Republic of Mali;

Mathieu Kerekou, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Party of the People's Revolution of Benin, President of the Republic, Head of State and Chairman of the National Executive Council;

Manuel Pinto da Costa, Chairman of the Liberation Movement of Sao Tome and Principe and President of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe;

Mengistu Haile Mariam, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Army;

Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, President of the Republic of Tunisia;

Joaquim Alberto Chissano, President of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party and President of the People's Republic of Mozambique;

Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal;

Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, President of the MPLA-Workers' Party and President of the People's Republic of Angola;

H. Desmond Hoyte, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana;

El Hadj Omar Bongo, President of the Gabonese Republic;

Pierre Buyoya, President of the Republic of Burundi and Chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation;

Miguel De La Madrid Hurtado, President of the United States of Mexico;

Hussein the First, King of Jordan;

Gus Hall, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the United States of America;

Chairwoman **Dolores Ibarruri** and General Secretary **Julio Anguita** of the Spanish Communist Party;

Doi Takako, chairwoman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party;

Najibullah, President of the Republic of Afghanistan;

Amin Gemayel, President of the Republic of Lebanon;

Mohamed Siad Barre, President of the Somali Democratic Republic;

Andre Kolingba, President, Head of state and government of the Central African Republic and Founder-Chairman of the Democratic Assembly of Central Africa;

Robert G. Mugabe, First Secretary and President of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front and President of the Republic of Zimbabwe;

Suharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia;

Jamahiriya Moammer El Gaddafi, Leader of the Great September First Revolution of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab;

William Kashtan, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Canada;

Bhichai Rattakul, Leader of the Democratic Party of Thailand;

Rigoberto Padilla Ruz, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Honduras;

Georges Hawi, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party;

Vassos Lyssarides, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Cyprus; and

Salomon Malina, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Brazilian Communist Party.

N-S Joint Conference Marked 40th Birthday in Pyongyang

A Pyongyang meeting was held at the People's Palace of Culture on Apr. 20 to mark the 40th anniversary of the publication of the historic work "The Political Situation in North Korea" by President Kim Il Sung at the April 1948 Joint Conference.

Present at the meeting were Pak Sung Chul, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice president, Ho Jong Suk, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, and others.

Kye Ung Tae, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, made a report at the meeting.

He said:

President Kim Il Sung called a joint conference of the representatives of the north and south Korean political parties and social organizations in Pyongyang in April 1948. In his historic work "The Political Situation in North Korea" on April 21, he assessed the situation of north Korea and outlined the tasks in the struggle against the U.S. imperialists seeking the division of Korea.

President Kim Il Sung dwelt on the machinations of the U.S. imperialists to divide Korea and the principled position of the Korean people against them. This clearly showed the Korean people the way of struggle to foil the nation-splitting moves of the U.S. imperialists and build a unified, independent and sovereign state.

The Korean people are now confronted with the task to revive the noble will and spirit of the historic April joint conference and promote the independent and peaceful reunification of the country with concerted efforts of the nation.

The achievement of national unity and formation of a grand national united front are essential for success in the sacred struggle to reunify the country under the banner of independence against the U.S.

We invariably maintain that the country must be reunified on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity on all account.

More than once have we declared that we will meet and hold dialogue at any time with anyone who truly wants national unity and reunification – not only south Korean people of all social standings and personages of political parties, organizations and opposition groups but also the rulers, unless it conflicts the will of the people.

The political parties, organization and individual personages in south Korea and abroad should resolutely reject the machinations of the U.S. and the south Korean authorities aimed at a permanent split of Korea and more positively support our proposal for the convocation of a north-south joint conference for national reconciliation and unity.

Today when broad public circles and people of all walks of life in south Korea are urging the improvement of north-south relations and national reconciliation and unity, the south Korean authorities should immediately respond to our proposal for the convocation of a north-south joint conference from the stance and position for reconciliation and unity, not antagonism and confrontation.

The U.S. must look straight at the growing anti-American sentiments of the south Korean people, immediately withdraw from south Korea, taking along their aggression forces and nuclear weapons, and renounce their colonial domination and interference in south Korea.

Meanwhile, a symposium was held in Pyongyang on Apr. 19 to mark the 40th anniversary of the Joint Conference of Representatives of the North and South Korean Political Parties and Social Organisations.

Speeches were made by Ryo Yong Gu, presidium member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, Prof. and Dr. Kim Song Je of Kim Sok Hyong of the Institute of History of the Academy of Social Sciences, Prof. and Associate Doctor Kim Ryang Je, vice rector of the Kumsong Political University, and Chon Gum Chol, director of the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland.

The Great Programme for National Union (2)

—In Memory of the North-South Joint Conference and Mr. Kim Gu—

(Continued from No. 1,375 issue)

"Provisional Government" Brushed Aside by U.S.

In those days when it was indispensable for the patriotic forces to unite against the plot for "separate elections and a separate government," the different political forces in south Korea were divided into the left, right and centre groups and so did not keep in step with each other.

This was extremely regrettable. In the "Korean Independence Party" headed by Mr. Kim Gu and to which I (An U Saeng) also belonged, opinions were divided and the dissidents seceded, forming the "New Korea Nationalist Party" and the "Democratic Korea Independence Party."

Efforts to bring about an alliance of the patriotic forces failed every time. Owing to the intrigues of the US imperialists, the situation came to such a pass that on July 19, 1947 Mr. Ryo Un Hyong, who had been trying to bring about left-right cooperation, was assassinated on the street in broad daylight.

Watching the turbulent situation, Mr. Kim Gu passed unhappy days with mixed feelings. After he returned home, his "Provisional Government" was brushed aside by the US military government.

So he became the vice-chairman of the "Central Council for the Promotion of Independence" formed by Syngman Rhee after his return home, and, as such, spearheaded the anti-trusteeship campaign.

But this only tended to produce the absurd results of helping the US moves to split our nation and the establishment of Syngman Rhee's foothold. No matter how much he might deplore this, Mr. Kim Gu was unable to improve the situation which was moving towards division.

He resented the behaviour of Lieutenant General Hodge, commander of the US army occupying south Korea, and Syngman Rhee, calling them "unpardonable fellows." But in fact, he was not in a position to stand against them successfully. Compromise was out of the question. Nevertheless, it was beyond his ability to rally enough forces to challenge them.

As a matter of fact, in those days there was no focal point, no central figure endowed with the authority of leader capable of rallying the patriotic forces in south Korea.

The excitement of national liberation had evaporated and now, in the face of the grave situation in which the crisis of territorial partition and national division was rapidly looming large, all the people were overcome with intense concern for the destiny of the country and the future of the people.

The prevailing situation urgently demanded the unity of the internal patriotic forces of the nation to frustrate the US imperialists' scheme for "separate elections and a separate government" and build a united independent state throughout the whole country.

General Kim Il Sung showed a sure way to break the deadlock. In the light of the situation in which the United States had disrupted the work of the "Soviet-US Joint Commission" for establishing a united democratic provisional government in Korea and illegally brought the Korean question to the United Nations in September 1947, he suggested at the meeting of co-chairmen of Front of North Korea on October 3, 1947 that representatives of the political parties and public organizations of north and south Korea should meet to hold consultations in order to foil the US imperialists' plan to split our nation and establish a united democratic government by the combined efforts of the patriotic forces in north and south Korea.

Preparations for North-South Joint Conference

Thanks to the energetic activities of the General, preparations started for the north-south joint conference which was intended to relieve the national distress.

Some people were dispatched to make contact with various parties and groups in south Korea, and others from south Korea came to visit the north. In those days travel between the north and the south was difficult because of the 38th parallel, but still private barter trade was connived at and the movement of people between the two zones was also possible. So, many people crossed the 38th parallel.

In the early winter of 1947 I (Kim Jong Hang) conducted Mr. Song Si Baek from south Korea to the General. A man with strong patriotic sentiment, he crossed the 38th parallel from an ardent desire to learn at first hand about the General's programme for saving the country.

At the interview given to Mr. Song Si Baek that day, the General stressed the necessity of cooperation between the communists and the nationalists to overcome the national distress of the growing danger of division.

Learning that he had contacts among members of the "Provisional Government" even before August 15, the General expressed a hope that he would tell Messrs. Kim Gu and Kim Gyu Sik and other rightwing nationalists of the need to ally themselves and cooperate with the communists and thereby induce them to take part in bringing about the north-south joint conference.

At the beginning of 1948, the General worked even harder to carry the idea of the north-south joint conference into reality.

Even now I (Kim Jong Hang) vividly remember the remarks made by the General on January 8 that year.

He said that in order to form a nationwide united front, it was necessary to cooperate open-mindedly with the rightwing nationalist forces in south Korea, and in particular Mr. Kim Gu, who were not servile to US imperialism.

He judged Mr. Kim Gu to be a nationalist with a patriotic conscience who had a strong anti-Japanese feeling, disliked the United States at present and was concerned about the future of the country, even though he had adopted an anti-communist attitude before.

With this the General referred to the need to push forward the work with Mr. Kim Gu and other political figures in south Korea with whom contact had already been made for cooperation.

Then, on January 13 he gave instructions that letters should be sent to Messrs. Kim Gu and Kim Gyu Sik and various political parties and public organizations in south Korea which contained a proposal for convening a nationwide meeting to discuss the building of a united and completely independent and sovereign state. Mr. Song Si Baek was amongst those who were given the task of conveying the letters.

The General, who had always attached great importance to the united front of the anti-Japanese patriotic forces during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, successfully led the work of rallying the patriotic forces for reunification after liberation by drawing on his rich experience.

I (An U Saeng) was in south Korea at that time. There I again met Mr. Song Si Baek who was an old friend from the time when I was staying in Chongqing, China.

(To be continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Party of Korea and vice president, Choe Gwang, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, and others.

Mr. Abu Jihad was assassinated on Apr. 16 in Tunis. It is now confirmed that Israeli intelligence agency Mossad is responsible for the assassination.

The attendants laid a wreath in joint name of the WPK Central Committee, the Central People's Committee and the Administration Council of the DPRK before the picture of the deceased and observed a moment's silence as a tribute to his memory.

Also placed there were wreaths from the Ministry of People's Armed Forces, the Korea-Palestine Committee for Friendship and Solidarity and a wreath in joint name of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea and the Central Committee of the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea.

Foreign diplomatic envoys and embassy officials in Pyongyang also called at the mission of the PLO to express condolences.

Students' Power Growing in South Korea

With the 28th anniversary of the April 19 Popular Uprising which toppled the Syngman Rhee regime being observed, students' struggles are gaining strength day by day.

One of the notable features of the recent students' struggles is that they go hand in hand with other democratic forces, especially with workers.

For example, on Mar. 20, 300 workers and university students held a rally to protest against the suppression of labor unions at Korea University.

Here is a report on the latest students' struggles in south Korea:

University students stage a demonstration for democracy and the reunification of the country. Their struggles are getting stronger day by day.

On Apr. 7, more than 2,000 students from 16 universities in Kwangju and South Cholla Province including Chonnam and Chosun universities held an inaugural ceremony of a newly formed South Cholla Provincial Consultative Council of Student Representatives, after they staged a demonstration.

They gathered on a playground of Chosun University to hold the ceremony and then marched out of the gate in files for a "Grand March for Peaceful Reunification".

They crashed with riot police, hurled rocks at them and continued their demonstration for two hours.

On Apr. 8, more than 300 students, affiliated with the Consultative Council of Student Representatives in the Seoul area, held a rally of students and youth in the southern district of Seoul to smash the fascist suppression of labor unions on the campus of Tanguk University and demanded guarantee of free trade unions' activities in the district.

On Apr. 12, more than 2,000 from over 10 universities in Seoul including Seoul, Korea and Sung Kyun Kwan universities gathered on the campus of Seoul University to hold an inaugural ceremony for a committee to promote the founding of a General Student Council in the Seoul Area.

At the end of a 4-hour meeting, over 500 students marched out the campus, shouting "Overthrow the dictatorship!" and "Drive out the Roh Tae Woo regime!"

They resisted riot police by throwing stones and rocks.

On the same day, more than 600 students held an anti-U.S., anti-"government" rally at Korea University and battled riot police, chanting "Yankees go home!"

On Apr. 14, some 1,500 students of Gyeong-sang University staged a demonstration chanting "Smash the government-inspired press!"

They threw rocks and Molotov cocktails at riot police and finally staged a sit-in in the playground of the university as the riot police shot tear gas bombs.

On Apr. 15, more than 250 students of over 10 universities in Seoul including Konkuk University and Seoul Municipal University held an inaugural meeting for a students' union at Konkuk University and then staged a powerful demonstration.

Condemning the Roh regime for its scheme to perpetuate the division of the country with the Olympiad, the students at the meeting strongly demanded that those responsible for the Kwangju incident be punished and the rights of workers' activities be guaranteed.

The students urged all the patriotic forces in south Korea to unite and foil the strategy of the Roh Tae Woo regime in the coming "national assembly election" and help true democratic figures win the election.

At the end of the meeting, the students fought a stone-hurling battle against police during their half-hour demonstration.

Ideological Books Widely Read among Students

South Korea's Joongang Ilbo reported on Apr. 16 that books and publications criticizing the undemocratic system of south Korea and ideological books are widely read among south Korean students as "must books for students."

The paper said that those books could be largely classified into three categories – Firstly, books aimed at "establishing a progressive world outlook,"; Secondly, books aimed to help readers "acquire a deep scientific understanding of history and society" and to change their world outlook; and Thirdly, "book criticizing the system" aimed at helping readers "understand problems and structural contradictions" of society on the basis of a "world outlook and methods" gained through the books of the first and second categories.

"A-Class Emergency Alert" Issued to Police

The police headquarters issued on Apr. 18 an "A-class emergency alert order" to the police across south Korea on the occasion of the 28th anniversary of the April 19 Popular Uprising.

The police were ordered to be "on full alert" round the clock from Apr. 18 to 21 and tighten guard on the main government and public buildings, political parties, etc., to cope with the expected student demonstrations.

Joint Chemical Warfare

A joint chemical warfare exercise of the U.S. and south Korean air forces was conducted on Apr. 15 as part of the provocative "Team Spirit 88" war game.

The U.S.-south Korea joint exercise was reportedly carried out in a situation reminiscent of a real war with aircraft attack and explosion of "live chemical bombs and sound bombs."

S. Korea Joins in "SDI"

The Roh Tae Woo regime announced on Apr. 16 that it would promote participation of south Korean business enterprises in the "Star Wars Program" of the United States.

It also made public that financial resources would be allocated to enterprises participating in the "SDI", adding that if necessary, the government would render financial aid to the project.

A Wave of Strikes Sweeps S. Korea

Labor disputes have kicked into high gear with nearly 100 strikes under way at mines and factories across south Korea.

A Daewoo Group subsidiary, Daewoo Shipbuilding & Heavy Machinery Co., remained closed on Apr. 20 for the 10th consecutive day, with some 3,000 workers sealing off gates to their shipyard to press demands for higher pay.

Thousands of workers are striking at the south Korea's No. 3 and 4 shipyards – Samsung Shipbuilding & Heavy Industries Co. and Korea Shipbuilding & Engineering Corp.

South Korea's labor ministry announced that 377 labor disputes have broken out so far this year, of which 80 remained in progress as of Apr. 20, involving more than 25,000 workers.

Hyundai Motor Co. was forced to halt production of heavy-duty trucks until Apr. 19 as it and other leading companies began to feel the effects of growing labor unrest.

Hyundai was forced by strikes at plants producing subcontracted parts.

Meanwhile, Daewoo Motor Co. remained closed for the ninth consecutive day on Apr. 20, with no settlement in sight.

Negotiations between management and union have failed as neither side has shown any compromise in which the striking workers demand a 27 percent pay increase while management has refused to go beyond 17 percent.

About 150 crewmen of 30 ferry companies walked off their jobs, demanding wage hike of up to 35 percent in the southwestern port of Mokpo on Apr. 19.

Daewoo Motor Co., south Korea's No. 2 auto maker, has been also closed since Apr. 12, as some 9,000 workers went on strike for a 26.6 percent pay raise.

On Apr. 16, 23 coal-mine unions across south Korea formally notified authorities of labor disputes, a procedure required before collective actions.

The miners also seek 15 to 30 percent pay increase.

Daewoo Precision & Industry Co., another Daewoo subsidiary, was also hit by a sit-down by some 150 workers at a Roman Catholic church in downtown Seoul.

The workers demanding a 35 percent pay increase began the protest at the church after police prevented them on Apr. 14 from entering Daewoo's head office in central Seoul.

The south Korea's labor ministry predicts that the current labor disputes may spread to other businesses as workers at many major plants are braced for strikes.

Some 500 workers of Yangsan-Yoju factories of Daewoo Precision & Industry on Apr. 12 staged a sit-in at the Seoul station plaza in protest against the insincere attitude of the management to workers. (Hankook Ilbo, Apr. 13)

Roh Deeply Involved in Saemaul Scandal (2)

—"Investigation Results", a Bid to Veil the Truth—

(Continued from the previous issue)

The successive home ministers including Roh Tae Woo misappropriated some 8.8 billion won out of the "national fund" for the Saemaul Shinmun, a newspaper company personally owned by Chun Kyung Hwan.

During six years from July 1981 to June 1987, the successive home ministers purchased a total of 3.4 million copies of the weekly newspaper and distributed them to Saemaul leaders free of charge.

The Roh regime is heir to the structural corruption of the former regime in that the irregularities had been perpetrated by capitalizing on "power."

About 30 people being presently accused of having been involved in the Saemaul scandal were nominated as candidates for the ruling Democratic Justice Party for the April 26 general election.

They are from the home ministry and were in a position to audit the "national fund" allocated by the government; and also from the secretariat of the presidential Blue House, which had been virtually a lobby for collecting "Saemaul donations" from the financial groups and other enterprises in return for the presidential influence peddling for them.

Those from the home ministry are Soh Yung Hwan, Kim Jong Ho, Ko Gon, Lee Chu Gu and Lee Gyu Hyo; and Kim Dae Ho, Ryu Hung Su and Kang Rip Sok from presidential secretariats.

They had been aides to the former Chun Doo Hwan regime.

These facts prove that the core elements of the present Roh regime have been deeply involved in the Saemaul scandal as they were directly or indirectly connected with the misappropriation of the "national fund" for the Saemaul movement.

Pulling Wires to Defend Chun Kyung Hwan

Roh Tae Woo is trying to create the impression that he has distanced himself from the former Chun regime in connection with the latest "arrest of Chun Kyung Hwan."

This, however, is nothing but a fraudulent measure to veil the true colors of the Roh regime – the fact that Roh's aides were ringleaders who had been involved in the irregularities and corruption perpetrated by the Chun regime.

On Feb. 23, just before Roh took over power from Chun Doo Hwan, the home ministry inflicted a disciplinary punishment upon the local government head of South Chungchong Province including leaders of the Saemaul headquarters and mayor of the province for their illegal conducts in rural development programs.

However, the ministry did not punish Chun Kyung Hwan on the pretext that "It is impossible to punish him as he quit the post of the president."

Roh attempted to give the impression that the incident had been already put an end to with the "punishment" against them and that he keeps distance from the former regime.

It is said that Roh did not punish the younger Chun as he wanted to avoid a direct conflict with Chun Doo Hwan at that time.

It was partly proved by the rumor then current in Seoul that Chun Doo Hwan called on Roh's residence at night and asked him not to make public the financial scandal of Chun's family and thereby a secret promise was made between them over the matter.

Against Chun's bid to calm down the scandal, loud voices were raised by mass media and the oppositions to demand a thorough investigation into the Saemaul corruption case.

Roh did attempt to let the younger Chun flee secretly abroad.

What fueled the popular indignation was a report that the immigration officials at Kimpo airport "received Chun Kyung Hwan more cordially than such VIPs as ministers when he fled south Korea." (Chosun Ilbo, Mar. 20)

Accusation of the younger Chun climaxed when this report was made, because the people had no doubt that "The government let him secretly depart from south Korea under the patronage of power." (Chosun Ilbo)

Therefore, Roh was virtually compelled to arrest the little Chun at last.

Another view of how Chun was arrested is that Roh Tae Woo revealed the irregularities of the Chun family in a bid to reject the influence of Chun Doo Hwan as the latter attempted to strengthen his influence on the Roh regime behind the curtain through the "advisory council of senior statesmen", of which he acted as president.

In either case, the Roh regime left no stone unturned to prevent the probe into the financial scandal from spreading to his regime and himself by sacrificing only Chun Kyung Hwan.

(Concluded)

Opposition Leader Hits Chun's Secret Purchase of Jets

The following are excerpts from an article which appeared in the Asian Wall Street Journal dated Apr. 20:

SEOUL – Opposition leader Kim Young Sam demanded that former President Chun Doo Hwan disclose how much wealth be accumulated during his eight years in power and explain his 1985 secret purchase of two Boeing 737 jetliners for his personal use.

"Former President Chun should make public a list of his property in possession before the Dec. 12 (1979) coup d'etat in which he seized power," Mr. Kim told reporters, "and a list of his property accumulated" through Feb. 25, the day his term as president ended.

Mr. Kim, former president of the chief opposition Reunification Democratic Party and a candidate in next Tuesday's National Assembly election, said Mr. Chun "also should reveal a list of his property registered under the ownership of other persons."

Campaign Issue

Accumulation of wealth by Mr. Chun and his family during his tenure and the reluctance of the new government of President Roh Tae Woo, his former friend and fellow army general, to fully investigate it have become central issues in the National Assembly election.

One scandal, at the partially state-supported Saemaul Undong Movement Headquarters, has already been investigated and resulted in the arrest of Mr. Chun's younger brother. Chun Kyung Hwan, who headed Saemaul during the seven years of his brother's presidency, was indicted Saturday (Apr. 16) on embezzlement and influence-peddling charges in connection with the agency's operations.

But Mr. Kim and leaders of three other opposition parties allege that others were involved in the Saemaul scandal, including 10 National Assembly candidates from the rulling Democratic Justice Party they named Tuesday (Apr. 19).

The opposition leaders also contend that the Saemaul case is only a very small part of the massive corruption engaged in by Mr. Chun, his family and friends during the Chun administration.

"Chun should explain his purchase of two Boeing 737s for his exclusive use, estimated to cost $100 million each, in May 1985," Mr. Kim said. "These imported (planes) were far more expensive and luxurious than the U.S. presidential B-727 plane."

Two sources familiar with the transaction confirmed that the Korean government bought two specially equipped B-737s in 1985 for Mr. Chun, his family and close confidants to flee the country in the event of severe domestic political turmoil.

The sources said Korea paid about $75 million – not $100 million – each for the pair of B-737s, which normally cost between $22 million and $35 million. The planes cost far more than usual, the sources said, because they are specially outfitted with, among other things, Electronic Countermeasure devices to detect missiles fired at them.

Government funds apparently were used to buy the planes. But the expenditure doesn't show up in the state budget, said an official of the new government, who indicated it probably was hidden "for security reasons."

The sources said the planes are parked at the Korean air force base known as K16, located just outside Seoul at Songnam, adjacent to the Ilhae Institute, which has been linked to Mr. Chun.

They said tunnels connect Ilhae's two buildings to the place on the base where the aircraft are housed, originally to help Mr. Chun escape undetected. While he was president, they added, two pilots were always on standby to fly him, his family and aides out of Korea in an emergency.

The B-737s have never been used, the sources said, and now are the property of the Korean air force, presumably to be used by Mr. Roh.

The new Korean government and the Korean air force declined to answer inquiries about the B-737s. Boeing officials reacted with alarm to questions about the two planes, the purchase of which was so secret they don't appear on the company's official list of planes ordered and delivered since 1985.

"I'm not going to talk about that," said a Boeing official. "It's too sensitive. You'll have to get the details from the Koreans."

An American official who asked not to be named acknowledged the existence of the planes, and compared them to Air Force One and Air Force Two, the special aircraft used by the U.S. president and vice president on official business.

"It was a total waste of $150 million," said an aviation expert knowledgeable about the purchase.

S. Korea's Labor Struggle Gaining Momentum

(Continued from the previous issue)

The workers' struggles have been getting more active since the upsurge of labor struggles in last summer in spite of the deceptive amendment of the Labor Act (Nov. 27, 1987) which the regime carried out as a conciliatory measure.

This is a reaction to the exploitation and suppression which is much more strengthened than in the past contrary to the slogans of "democratization" and "establishment of labor union-management relation" adopted by the Roh Tae Woo regime and management.

To begin with, there is a great gap on the wage problem between labor and management.

"The General Association Labor Unions of Korea" demanded a 23.9% wage raise, pointing to a rise in consumer prices, labor productivity and the economic growth rate.

Against the demand, the Association of Managements asserted that 7.5%-8.5% is the limit.

This is one-third or one-fourth of the workers' wage demand.

Last year, the minimum living expenses of urban workers (a family of four) was 524,000 won a month (calculated by GAKLU).

But, as for workers in the manufacturing industries, average salary is less than 200,000 won.

Most workers are living on low wages which are far from the minimum living expenses.

Thus, the wage problem is an issue of burning concern in south Korea.

But according to a survey by the ministry of labor, out of 6,620 firms employing more than 1,000 workers, only 104 firms settled wage disputes by Mar. 15.

The average increase rate was 12.2%.

Most firms are still continuing wage negotiations.

Suppression of the labor movement by the Roh regime has been strengthened since its "victory in the presidential election" in last December.

One of the examples is that some 1,200 labor unions were founded in the course of the struggle that raged from July to September last year.

But more than 400 unions vanished by the end of November because of suppression or appeasement by the authorities.

On its February, 1988 issue, "Shin Dong-A", a leading magazine, disclosed the actual conditions of suppression of labor unions by enterpreneurs who are under the protection of the authorities.

The main suppressive measures are: 1) To emasculate labor unions by dismissing their executives; 2) To win over union members to the management side one by one; 3) To split the labor unions; 4) To threaten labor union executives physically by kidnapping and confining them.

These and other illegal acts are taken by management.

Management is suppressing the workers who demand their just rights, in conspiracy with the police, goons called "Kusade" and company unions.

They illegally arrested the executives of the new labor union of Hyundai Engine Co., who had staged a sit-in in the company building, and refused to recognize the new labor union.

In other case, they ignore the workers who stage sit-ins in the company compounds and try to crush independent labor unions by fakely declaring their companies bankrupt and closed down, and setting up new ones. **(End)**

40th Anniv. of Apr. 24 Struggle to Defend Korean Schools Here

Forty years have passed since the Korean nationals in Japan, on Apr. 24, 1948 succeeded in forcing the Japanese authorities to withdraw an "order for the closure of Korean schools".

The Apr. 24 education struggle of resident Koreans is of special significance as a struggle to safeguard the democratic national education of Korean nationals in Japan.

During the struggle, resident Koreans were indiscriminately arrested irrespective of age and sex. A Korean boy was shot to death. A military trial was held, an indication of the strong resistance of resident Koreans to the suppressive measures by the U.S. occupation forces and the Japanese authorities.

Korean nationals here have consistently defended their democratic national education, and particularly since the formation of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) in May 1955, great success have been scored in its area.

Presently there are 152 Korean schools – from kindergartens to a university – throughout Japan. The schools have contributed toward educating students to be able to devote themselves to the socialist construction of the DPRK, the peaceful reunification of Korea and international friendship with Japanese and other peoples of the world.

* * *

Right after the liberation of Korea on Aug. 15, 1945, resident Koreans started a national education throughout Japan to restore the deprived mother tongue, national culture and history, while preparing for repatriation.

Korean language courses started in temporary classrooms, which afterwards developed into Korean schools.

After Joryun (the League of Koreans Residing in Japan) was formed in October 1945, the first united front organization of Koreans in Japan, the national educational work was systematized.

By 1947, a total of about 570 schools of various levels were set up throughout this country with around 60,000 students enrolled.

U.S. policy toward Korea and Japan after WWII exerted various influences on the national education work of Koreans in Japan.

After WWII, the U.S. regarded south Korea as its "forward base" and Japan as its "backward base" and prepared for the Korean War in order to put the whole of the Korean Peninsula under its influence.

The U.S. opposed a unified country in Korea, established a puppet government in south Korea and then the Korean War broke out (June 1950-July 1953).

In Japan it pursued the policy of stabilizing Japan as its "backward base" by supporting the conservative forces and took a series of measures to suppress democratic forces.

As a result, the campaigns of Joryun and resident Koreans for an independent peaceful reunification of Korea and democratic national rights including national education became a target of suppression.

In November 1947, the U.S. occupation authorities started implementing the policy of suppressing the national education work of Korean residents in Japan.

From the end of March 1948 the orders for the closure of Korean schools were issued by the Japanese prefectural authorities one after another in Yamaguchi, Okayama, Hyogo, Osaka and Tokyo.

Korean compatriots in those areas unanimously opposed the order and made petitions to their local governments, whilst holding large-scale demonstrations and meetings against the separate election in south Korea.

The campaigns to defend the national education were conducted under Joryun in an organized way with the mobilization of a large number of Korean compatriots.

In Tokyo, Osaka and Kobe, Korean compatriots strongly expressed their anger.

On the other hand, Joryun's countermeasure committee for Korean education submitted a four-point demand to the Japanese authorities in March 1948. Their demand included instruction in the Korean language in order to defend the autonomous educational system of Korean schools.

The U.S. occupation authorities and the Japanese authorities ignored this demand and continued their suppressive measures.

On Apr. 15 about 70 of the Koreans who assembled outside the Hyogo Prefectural Government Office were arrested. In protest against it, tens of thousands of Koreans gathered on Apr. 24 in front of the Government Office and demanded withdrawal of the closure order and release of the arrested.

The U.S. occupation authorities and the Japanese armed police suppressed these Koreans at gun point.

Koreans encountered them barehanded. Therefore, the Hyogo governor and the prefectural and city authorities agreed to a negotiation and finally agreed to withdraw the order and release the arrested Koreans.

In Osaka about 7,000 Koreans gathered on Apr. 23, at Ohtemae Park and held a rally. But the Osaka prefectural authorities mobilized 4,000 armed police and arrested some 200 Korean nationals.

Lieutenant General Robert L. Eichelberger, Commanding General of the U.S. Eighth Army, was dispatched to Kobe. He instructed the Kobe governor to nullify what he had agreed with Koreans, saying that the agreement was forced under the "threats", proclaimed a "state of emergency", the first and only one, during the U.S. occupation of Japan, and ordered to round up the personages concerned and hold a military trial.

An indiscriminate roundup of Koreans was started and as a result, 2,000 Koreans were arrested in Kobe.

In Osaka 40,000 Koreans on Apr. 26 massed again in front of the Osaka Prefectural Government Office. Some 2,000 armed police surrounded them, poured waters and fired at them. A 16-year-old Korean boy named Kim Tae Il was shot to death and many demonstrators were wounded.

Even under these circumstances, Korean nationals defended several Korean schools including the Nishi Kobe Elementary School in Hyogo Prefecture from the closure order of Korean schools.

The suppression of Korean schools by the U.S. occupation authorities and the Japanese authorities continued in 1949, 1950 and 1951. In March 1951 more than 5,000 armed police attacked the Tokyo Korean Junior and Senior High School, when 200 students were wounded, many seriously.

Despite the continuous suppression, Korean nationals have defended and developed their democratic national education work, thanks to the care extended by the fatherland and to support of broad sections of the Japanese people.

In particular, since the formation of Chongryun, the democratic national education has developed rapidly on the basis of the Juche-oriented educational idea of President Kim Il Sung.

Thanks to the care of the DPRK including educational aid fund and stipends which have been sent since 1957 and Chongryun's consistent efforts, democratic national educations are available to Koreans in Japan.

A partial view of Choson Univ., the only overseas university of the DPRK, located in a suburb of Tokyo.

The university has seven four-year faculties, a two-year and a three-year teachers' training courses and a post-graduate course.

First graders of the Tokyo Korean No. 4 Elementary and Junior High School wore traditional Korean costumes and presented Korean dances and songs which they learned at school. (February 1988)

Korean residents in Kobe gathered outside the Hyogo Prefectural Government Office, demanding the withdrawal of the closure order of Korean schools. (Apr. 24, 1948)

Memoirs of Korean National

Li Sang Duk, 64, vice president of the Chongryun Hyogo Educational Committee, spoke of the educational struggle in 1948.

Follow excerpts from his talk:

When Korea was liberated, I served as vice chairman of the Hanshin Chapter of the Democratic Korean Youth League in Japan, an affiliated organization of Joryun.

Korean compatriots built schools in various places of Japan to teach mother tongue and the history of their fatherland.

At first, lessons were given in improvised classrooms. The classes were animated. Compatriots visited Korean nationals door to door to collect money and rice so that they could build a Korean school. They bought the site of a soysauce factory and built a school with their own hands.

Due to the closure order of Korean schools, suppression by the U.S. occupation authorities and the Japanese authorities increased. In March 1948, we went to the Hyogo Prefectural Government Office everyday together with many compatriots.

We were earning a scanty livelihood, but we first fought to defend our democratic national education.

On the other hand, the U.S. occupation forces and Japanese armed police rushed to our school and pasted posters proclaiming the "closure of schools".

We formed a scrammage to face them. We stripped off the posters as soon as they pasted them.

On Apr. 24, thanks to our efforts we won the struggle to force the authorities to withdraw the order. But the next day the U.S. occupation authorities proclaimed a "state of emergency" and our compatriots were arrested at random by the U.S. occupation forces armed with carbines.

I was also walked and taken to an underground room at Ikuta Police Station at Sannomiya, Kobe City, where I found some 300 compatriots, young and old, men and women.

I was interrogated by an official of the Civil Information and Education Section of the U.S. occupation authorities.

Why was it wrong to fight to safeguard our democratic national education?

The investigation was somewhat haphazard.

The arrested were lined and the governor, police and the U.S. forces examined one by one whether they participated in the rally or not.

I was handed over to the Japanese police and was detained for a month. Why did we have to be charged because we taught our children Korean, our mother tongue?

The spirit of the struggle 40 years ago, still lives even now and we now have democratic national education system.

DPRK Martial Artists Do Well at World Championships

DPRK martial artists received the highest number of points at the Sixth World Taegwondo Championships, held in Budapest from Apr. 8-13.

They carried off 11 golds, five silvers, seven bronzes, eight special prizes for exhibition matches, one technical prize and 14 trophies.

The championships have been held in every second year by the International Taegwondo Federation since 1976.

This year some 350 exponents from more than 30 countries vied with each other for the prizes. Among the countries represented were Canada, Britain, the U.S.A., Norway, Poland, Greece, Spain and so on.

The DPRK team was expected to do well in the tournament because it obtained good results at the previous championships.

This form of martial art originated in Korea and became popular as a means of defence and a sport.

Nowadays, there are over 10 million Taegwondo students worldwide and the ITF has branches in about 30 countries.

Along with the DPRK players Korean martial artists in Japan also attended the championships as a team and got good results. They carried off the gold in the team and So Man Chol received the bronze in the pattern displays, where a series of movements against an imaginary opponent are performed.

Here are the results of the DPRK team:

Team events:

* First in the women's pattern contest, the women's sparing and the women's special technique categories.
* Second in the men's special technique and the women's power categories.
* Third in the men's pattern contest.

Individual events:

– Winners of pattern contest:
* Men's first grade, Kim Sok Nam
* Women's first grade, Kim Jong Hui
* Women's second grade, Kim Yong Hui
* Women's third grade, U Jong A

– Winners of sparing contest:
* Women's 58 kg category, Hwang Yong Mi

– Winners of special technique contest
* Women's high flying kicking, Han Yun Ok
* Women's turn Kicking, Han Yun Ok
* Women's free technique, Hwang Yong Mi

28th Anniv. of Apr. 19 Uprising Commemorated

The meeting was conducted with utmost solemnity. Photo shows the attendants chanting slogans against the south Korean government and the U.S.

Some 1,000 Korean youths and students from the Kanto area assembled at the Japan Education Hall in Tokyo for a meeting to commemorate the 28th anniversary of the April 19 Popular Uprising in south Korea.

O Hyong Jin, director of the Organizational Department of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) and Kim Hak Su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the Korean Youth League in Japan attended the meeting.

Chairman Kim made a report in which he denounced the Roh Tae Woo regime as being a false "democracy" and pointed out that it is trying to strengthen military ties with the U.S. and Japan as demonstrated by the recent Team Spirit 88 military exercises which involved some 200,000 men.

He expressed his full support for the struggling students and people of south Korea and the proposal by students at Seoul National University to hold talks between student representatives from universities in the north and the south. He urged those attending the meeting to work more actively for the realization of talks and the reunification of the country.

He was followed by two Japanese guests who made speeches of solidarity.

Similar meetings were also held in Gifu, Osaka, Hiroshima and Fukuoka prefectures respectively.

Pyongyang Meet

Earlier on Apr. 18, a meeting in Pyongyang was held to commemorate the people's uprising in south Korea.

Ryom Tae Jun, presidium member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, made a report at the meeting.

He said that April uprising of the south Korean people was a massive anti-U.S., anti-fascist nation-saving resistance in which they demanded democracy, new policies and a new life.

He said that south Korean students and citizens learned the lesson that they should wage an organized struggle with distinct strategy and tactics and stressed that they should direct their struggle against the U.S. and fight persistently till they achieve an independent democratic government.

He rounded off his speech by expressing strong support for the proposal to hold talks between student representatives from the north and the south proposed by students from Seoul National University.

Korean Athletes Prominent in Japan

Boxing

The Fourth Selected Team Boxing Tournament between Korean High Schools in Japan and Japanese High Schools from the Kinki area took place in Osaka Prefecture on Mar. 26 and resulted in an overwhelming victory for the Korean team.

The tournament has been held annually in the hope that it would promote sporting exchanges and friendship between Korean and Japanese students. In past tournaments both teams have had one victory, one defeat and one draw.

There were seven weight divisions: Mosquitoweight, lightflyweight, flyweight, bantamweight, featherweight, lightweight and lightwelterweight.

The Korean team won ten matches and lost two.

More recently, the 1988 Amateur Boxing Championships of Tokyo were held from Apr. 10-13 and boxers from Choson University won bouts in two weight categories, qualifying for the All Japan Amateur Boxing Championships to be held in May.

Eight boxers from Choson University and 58 Japanese boxers from the general public and various universities competed at the championships.

Four Korean boxers reached the finals and two Korean boxers faced each other in the lightweight final.

The two Korean victories were in the lightflyweight and lightweight divisions.

Chon Hyon Bong, winner in the lightweight

Chon Dong Ryol, winner in the lightflyweight

Kim Chol Sung

Skating

A young Korean skater, resident in Japan, was successful at the All Japan Junior Figure Skating Championships held in Aichi Prefecture from Apr. 3-5.

Kim Chol Sung, 15, a first-year student at the Aichi Korean Junior and Senior High School came fourth overall because of his spectacular triple-turn jumps and exceptional skating skill.

He had previously won first prize at the 24th Chubu Area Figure Skating Championships which were held from Mar. 21-22.

He began skating in earnest on the advice of a skating instructor at an ice rink he used to go to while he was still in the fourth grade at elementary school.

It did not take long before he began to make a name for himself by winning a junior figure skating championships in Aichi Prefecture and coming eighth in the last All Japan Junior Figure Skating Championships.

He has cleared three kinds of triple-turns and is known for his dynamic skating making use of his height which is 167 centimetres.

Although he has a very promising career as a skater ahead of him he is still critical of his weak points which he says are lack of force and stability. However, he says his dream is "to participate in the next (1992) Olympic Games".

Boxers representing Korean high schools defeated their Japanese opponents 10 to 2 at the tournament held on Mar. 26.

Soccer

Choson University's football teams (A and B) gave a good showing at the 2nd All Japan University Soccer Festival in 1988 held at Tsukuba University in Ibaraki Prefecture from Mar. 15-25.

The festival was held to deepen friendship between universities and was participated in by 26 football teams.

Choson University's A and B teams managed to win three games, lose one and draw one.

Troop Withdrawal Plans Surface in U.S. (1)

By George Kim
Special to The People's Korea

In recent years, prominent Americans have begun to question the wisdom of stationing U.S. forces in south Korea.

They have called for the withdrawal of U.S. forces or for a reduction of U.S. personnel.

Proposals to withdraw the troops have been controversial but not unusual in the United States.

President Jimmy Carter, in his election campaign in 1975, promised a withdrawal of combat troops from south Korea and subsequently in 1978, began to withdraw units from the 2nd Infantry Division. Although the withdrawal was halted by the President later, Carter originally planned to bring the troops home over a five-year period.

Let us look at recent proposals:

• An amendment sponsored by Rep. Robert Mrazek (D-N.Y.) early last year would have required the Defense Department to develop a plan for the "orderly reduction" of U.S. forces in south Korea.

• The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. advocated a phased withdrawal in a policy statement adopted by its Governing Board on Nov. 6, 1986.

• Selig Harrison, a senior associate of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, called for the removal of nuclear weapons, stressing the need to phase out U.S. ground forces.[1]

• Melvyn Krauss, a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution and professor of economics at New York University, contributed an article entitled "Time for U.S. Troops to Go Home" to The Asian Wall Street Journal (Aug. 14-15, 1987).

• Gregory Henderson, a research associate with the Center for East Asian Studies at Harvard University, said that land-based nuclear weapons must be gradually withdrawn and that the U.S. military presence should be shifted from the riflemen of the U.S. Army's 2nd Division by reducing the division by two-thirds to a brigade. **(Far Eastern Economic Review, Sep. 24, 1987)**

• William Gleysteen who served as U.S. ambassador to south Korea from 1978 to 1981 said that it will be natural to consider some reconfiguration of the 43,000 American forces in south Korea as Seoul's military capability grows.[2]

• Stephen Goose, senior analyst with the Center for Defense Information, asserted that large numbers of U.S. ground troops are not militarily necessary, given the basic equivalence of north and south Korean forces.[3] He added that the withdrawal of U.S. troops is not likely to lead to increased aggression by the north.[4]

Cato Institute's Paper Draws Attention

Particularly, a paper published by the Cato Institute last December has drawn attention to the problem for various reasons.[5]

Firstly, the Cato Institute is a think tank tilting toward the Republican Party.

As President Carter once urged a troop pullout, proposals have been made mainly by Democrats so far while Republicans have opposed any idea of reducing the U.S. military presence.

The author of the paper, Doug Bandow, has served as a special assistant to President Reagan.[6]

Secondly, the paper called not only for complete withdrawal but for the termination of the Mutual Defense Treaty between Washington and Seoul.

In the United States, the elimination of the underlying defense guarantee has rarely been mentioned, let alone seriously considered.[7]

Mrasek's amendment did not address the issue, and the Carter administration refused to make any changes in the Mutual Defense Treaty.

Though Gleysteen suggested cutting U.S. ground forces when the south's army reached parity with that of the north, he added that the tripwire must be preserved because "the United States will have to ensure that no misleading signals about unwavering U.S. commitments are conveyed to any player – North, South or beyond the peninsula."

Harrison admitted the presence of the Air Force and Krauss opposed the withdrawal of the U.S. Air Force and nuclear weapons.

The paper published by the Cato Institute is notable because it proposed not only the complete withdrawal of all U.S. troops from south Korea but also the termination of the 1954 Mutual Defense Treaty.

In the paper Bandow came up with a five-year phased withdrawal as a disengagement plan.

The paper said that an American infantry division should be withdrawn during the first two years and the air force and other units during the next three.

It also pointed out during the five-year withdrawal period the United States should allow Seoul to purchase any conventional military weapons it desired, including the equipment of the departing U.S. forces (which should be demobilized).

Bandow cited budgetary consequences, military risks and political damage as the costs of commitment.

"Indeed, the United States' commitment to defend the ROK is a major detriment, costing billions and increasing the risk of American involvement in an Asian war," the paper said.

For years the United States funded the bulk of south Korea's defense effort.

Pointing out that the United States has provided a vast amount of money to south Korea as military aid, it said that of the $305 billion defense authorization requested in fiscal year 1985, $47 billion was designated for eastern Asia. South Korea's defense accounted for about half of those projected outlays.

When President Nixon withdrew the Seventh Army division from south Korea in 1971, he purchased south Korea's assent to the troop pullout by authorizing a $1.5 billion, five-year modernization program. (Additional U.S. force withdrawals, starting in 1973, were stipulated but not carried out.)

In 1978 President Carter pulled 3,600 soldiers out of south Korea, taking the first step of his plan to remove all but 14,000 U.S. air force personnel and logistics specialists by 1982. He also secured south Korea's acquiescence to a troops reduction, through a $2.2 billion, five-year program of credit and weapons transfers. Later, Carter put his withdrawal plan "in abeyance."

"...to protect America's interests, the administration should develop a plan for a phased troop withdrawal whose final stage would be the termination of the Mutual Defense Treaty," the paper said.

(To be continued)

Notes

1. "Dateline South Korea: A Divided Seoul", by Selig Harrison, Foreign Policy, Number 67, Summer 1987.

2. "Korea: Asian Paradox," by William H. Gleysteen and Alan D. Romberg, Foreign Affairs, Vol. 65, No. 5, Summer 1987.

3. "The Military Balance 1985-86" published by the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies said, "The opposing forces in the Korean Peninsula are roughly equivalent. Neither is capable of a successful major offensive against the other without significant foreign assistance."

4. "The Military Situation on the Korean Peninsula," by Stephen Goose, from the book "Two Koreas – One Future?" published by the Americans Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in 1987.

5. The paper appeared in "Policy Analysis" (No. 96), a regular series published by the Cato Institute.

6. Bandow also contributed his comment to The New York Times in late March. He insisted that it is imperative that American forces start leaving the peninsula, eventually removing Seoul from the U.S. defense safety net. (International Herald Tribune, Apr. 1, 1988)

7. The AFSC made some concrete suggestions for reconciliation and reunification in its book "Two Koreas – One Future?" It urged the Unites States to contribute to the easing of tensions by reviewing and changing those provisions of the 1954 Mutual Defense Treaty with south Korea that are provocative toward north Korea. Harrison wrote in his article: "The Reagan administration should encourage moderation in the North by making clear that it would like to remove all U.S. forces from the peninsula as soon as conditions permit and is prepared to terminate its security treaty with Seoul if Moscow and Beijing end their military commitments to Pyongyang." (Dateline South Korea: A Divided Seoul)

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ago, has been a symbol of south Korea's defiant students who have been fighting against the military dictatorships.

Some 5,000 students who participated in the marathon race came back to Korea University campus and held a rally supporting trade unions recently striking for wage hikes and better working conditions.

They also vowed to wage anti-U.S. struggle, saying, "We will make Americans withdraw their nuclear weapons and will co-host the coming Olympic Games with the north."

Meanwhile, on Apr. 19, some 3,000 Seoul students held a memorial rally of the April 19 Popular Uprising, shouting slogans like "Down with the ruling DJP", "Reunify north and south", and "Thoroughly investigate the truth of the KAL incident."

After the rally, several hundred students clashed with riot police who attempted to block students, and hurled hundreds of Molotov cocktails, setting a police bus afire.

Several sources said that more than 30,000 students from 107 universities and colleges throughout south Korea on Apr. 19 held rallies and staged demonstrations on the occasion of the 28th anniversary of the April 19 Popular Uprising.

They were among the largest anti-government struggles since Roh's inauguration last February.

"Nothing has changed since Roh's inauguration," a leading Korean expert told The People's Korea, "and another 'April 19' may still be possible."

"Some people tend to think Roh is different from Chun, but these students can't be cheated. They know that Roh is deliberately leading the public to believe that he is implementing democracy, and they don't believe in his make-believe democracy," he said.

They don't believe Roh, he went on to say, "because he is the main supporter of Chun's takeover of power in the 1980 coup and one of the wirepullers of the Kwangju massacre in which more than 2,000 were killed. More importantly, they say the legacy of the Chun era – torture, violence, human rights abuse, etc. – still remains in the society, and is even getting worse."

"Anyway, this is another military dictatorship," he said.

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northern area, the report said.

The bombardment, following the firing, is a "premeditated military provocation" aimed at aggravating the situation on the Korean Peninsula, the KCNA said.

Korean Secretary to MAC Raps US for False Data

The secretary of the Korean side to the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) on Apr. 19 denounced the American side for providing false data on the cases of "violations" of the Armistice Agreement by the Korean side.

In a letter to the American side to the MAC, the Korean secretary said, "If your side is concerned about the implementation of the Armistice Agreement and agreed points, it should not do the mean act of handing over to our side data on 'violations' made up of faked-up incidents."

According to the letter, the data sent by the American side didn't specify the spots, times and contents of the alleged "violations" by the Korean side.

The letter urged the U.S. side to recall the 490th meeting of the secretaries of the MAC held on Mar. 23, where the Korean side demanded that the U.S. side faithfully implement the Armistice Agreement and agreed points, warning that the U.S. side continued sending false data on the cases of "violations", ignoring repeated protests by the Korean side.

"This is a mockery of the Armistice Agreement and agreed points and a challenge to us," it said.

"If your side again sends us defective data to place obstacles to the implementation of the Armistice Agreement and agreed points, remaining deaf to our just protests, our side will not receive them altogether," the letter warned.

Earlier on Apr. 14, the security officer of the Korean side at a MAC security officers' meeting at Panmunjom lodged a strong protest with the U.S. side against the introduction of automatic arms into the Joint Security Area of Panmunjom.

The account of the security officer of the Korean side follows:

* At about 04:25 on Apr. 13, soldiers of the U.S. army came with automatic weapons out of the bedroom of security guards south of the conference room of the MAC and went up to a post in front of the residences of the Swiss and Swedish delegations to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, and at about 13:25 they brought eight automatic weapons into the above-mentioned bedroom.

* On Apr. 4, a security guard of the U.S. side standing at an observation post southeast of the MAC conference room repeatedly levelled an automatic weapon at a security person of the Korean side.

* On Apr. 6, a security guard of the U.S. army at a check-point south of the Joint Security Area was seen coming with an automatic weapon up to the bedroom of security guards south of the conference room. A similar case occurred on Apr. 11.

The statement of the Korean officer said the provocation and violations by the U.S. side in the Joint Security Area numbered 25 cases.

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